

ASK FOR AERIAL TRUCK

Two Boards of Council Hold Joint Session Last Night When Speakers Advocated Purchase of Apparatus.

The question of securing a new truck to take the place of the present apparatus known as the Relief Hook and Ladder was discussed at length at a joint session of City Council last night, presided over by F. F. Marbury, president of the board of aldermen. The discussion ended about 9:45 o'clock, after which the recommendation of the fire and finance committees to purchase a new truck, which was presented at the last meeting, was recommended to the joint committee on fire and finance and it is expected that this committee will soon make a report.

Before the joint session convened Councilman Bryan, vice president, who presided in the absence of President Smith, stated he called the meeting for the purpose of considering the advisability of purchasing a new truck.

President Marbury, after the joint session convened, also explained the object of the meeting.

Councilman Foster said the object of the meeting was to clear up any differences that may exist in the minds of the members of council regarding the need for a new truck.

Walter W. Withers, representing the American La France Fire Engine Company, was then given the floor, and he answered many questions propounded to him by various members of council regarding the differences between aerial and what are known as city service trucks. His company, he said, sells ten aerial to one of the city service trucks. Among other things he said the wires in the city would not necessarily interfere with the operation of an aerial truck; one man can operate a sixty-five foot ladder on such a truck; aerial trucks cost \$10,500 and city service trucks \$6,500; city service trucks are all right for towns of 5,000 or 6,000 inhabitants or cities where they have more than one truck.

In reply to a query of Councilman Ballenger, Mr. Withers said it would cost about \$4,000 each to motorize the fire engines, and that a new motor fire engine cost \$9,000.

It was explained during the meeting that the details incident to purchasing a new truck would be arranged by the fire and finance committee and submitted to council and different companies invited to submit bids.

Fire Chief Robert E. Gronau was given the floor, and in reply to a query of Councilman Foster said that if smoke and fire issues from a window the present ladders are practically useless, as the ends are frequently burned off. The Chief also stated that it takes from fifteen to eighteen minutes to get up the big ladder of the truck in case of fire. He favored an aerial truck from an economical standpoint. The Chief also said it takes eight to ten men to handle the big ladder of the present truck, and he regarded it as dangerous.

John H. Trimyer, president of the Relief Hook and Ladder Company, next took the floor. He expressed the hope that council would give the truck company an up-to-date aerial apparatus. Continuing Mr. Trimyer said: "We have a volunteer department and I don't believe a volunteer company in the country excels it. All are willing to go anywhere and at all times. The present truck is thirty years old, and the company of which I am president contributed \$500 towards its purchase and also gave the harness. The present truck is unsafe and dangerous and out of keeping with the progress of the city of Alexandria. The company is of the opinion that an aerial truck should be purchased."

Kenneth W. Ogden, captain of the Reliance Fire Company, declared it was a well known fact that the present truck is unsafe.

Special Notice.

Washington Memorial Lodge of Perfection, No. 7, will hold a stated meeting on March 9th, 1917, at 7:30 p. m., in the Masonic Temple, at which time the ninth and tenth degrees will be conferred. All members and visiting brethren are cordially invited to be present.

The annual election of officers will be held previous to the conferring of the degrees.

FRANK W. LATHAM, 32 degree Secretary.

SWEENEY REAPPOINTED

State Board of Education Names Present Superintendent of Public Schools to Succeed Himself.

William H. Sweeney, who during the past seven years has been City Superintendent of Public Schools of Alexandria, was last night again selected for that position by the State Board of Education. There were no competitors for Mr. Sweeney's position.

Mr. Sweeney has resided in Alexandria for many years. He was an educator almost since his boyhood days, and has given his undivided attention to his profession. After the closing of St. John's Academy, which had been conducted by the late Richard L. Carne, who became a Catholic clergyman, Mr. Sweeney was elected a teacher in the public school system, at first filling a minor position. His worth was immediately recognized and he rapidly rose upon the different rungs of the ladder until he became the only logical candidate for Superintendent upon the death of Kosciusko Kemper in 1910. During his seven years of service he has thrown all his talents into the system he so faithfully represents, and his reappointment will be hailed with delight by his many friends and acquaintances.

Mr. Sweeney is the fourth Superintendent of Schools of Alexandria. The public school system became operative here in 1871, about two years after the Underwood Constitution had been adopted which provided for public education. Richard L. Carne was the first Superintendent. He was succeeded by his brother, the late William F. Carne, during the readjuster-republican regime 1879-1883, but upon the collapse of that party Richard L. Carne again became superintendent. The latter resigned in the early part of the nineties, when he entered the priesthood, and the late Kosciusko Kemper was appointed in his place. He held the position almost up to the time of his death.

M. D. Hall was reappointed Superintendent of Schools of Fairfax county last night. E. G. Coe was his competitor. Mr. Hall has for years been Superintendent of the Fairfax schools. He has many friends and acquaintances in Alexandria, all of whom realize that he has fulfilled his duties faithfully and efficiently.

There are twelve superintendents yet to be selected by the state board who will be named on March 20th, the next regular meeting of that body.

ent truck is unsafe. He endorsed the purchase of an aerial truck. Economy could be well measured in safe guarding lives and keeping down insurance rates, he said. The volunteer system is saving the city about \$20,000 annually, he said. The only thing being asked for he said was an apparatus that would reflect credit on the city, and he added there were many reasons why the city should purchase an aerial truck, and that an aerial truck is the only truck that will answer the purpose.

A vote of thanks was extended Mr. Withers and the firemen who spoke on motion of Councilman Lawler.

Among the spectators were a delegation of members of the Relief Hook and Ladder Company.

REPLY TO STRIKE THREATS.

Washington Merchants Say Employer Has Right to Run Own Business. Threats by the Retail Clerks' Union to tie up the business of several employers of members of the organization by calling out employees resulted in the adoption last night by the Retail Merchants' Association of Washington of a resolution condemning labor contracts that restrict the rights of a merchant to engage and discharge employees at will. The resolution also pledged to all members of the organization who insist upon these rights the financial and moral support of the association. The meeting was called to consider complaints of labor troubles which had been made by several members of the association.

The association named a special committee to meet a committee from the union and discuss methods of arbitration and thus prevent strikes on the part of employees of any store in the association.

The resolution expressly states that the association does not oppose

Alexandria City and Suburbs

There was no session of the Police Court this morning.

Miss Elsie Snowden was the guest last week of Miss Ellen Ball, at her home in Westhampton, Richmond.

Mrs. F. B. Warwick, of Rosemont, has returned from Ironton, Ohio, where she was called to attend the funeral of her mother.

Miss Dare, of Rising Sun, Maryland, is the guest of her brother and sister-in-law, Mr. and Mrs. Charles E. Dare, at their home in Rosemont.

At a meeting of the Columbia Steam Fire Engine Company last night Edward J. McDermott was elected first vice president in place of John Leadbeater, deceased.

Mrs. Z. T. Pierce and Miss Annie Pierce, of Hamilton, Loudoun county, have been the guests of Dr. and Mrs. Charles T. Lindsay, in south Columbus street, during the past week of Mr. and Mrs. Carroll Pierce at their home in north Alfred St.

The funeral of the late Miss Sarah Lukens took place this afternoon from Wheatley's Chapel. Rev. Dr. S. A. Wallis conducted the services. Interment was in Ivy Hill cemetery.

Mr. and Mrs. Oakes, Miss Pauline Oakes and Miss Hembrey Oakes, of Florence, S. C. were the guests for the inauguration of Mr. and Mrs. A. T. Rollins, at their home in Duke street, and left this morning to visit friends in Richmond.

Miss Margaret Warthen, Miss Katherine Warthen, Mr. Myron Sheppard and Master Clinton Sheppard, of Richmond, and Cadet Harry J. Sheppard, of the Virginia Polytechnic Institute, were the guests for the inauguration of Mr. and Mrs. H. J. Warthen, at their home in Rosemont.

"Virginia Leads" is the title of a small but interesting book recently issued by Virginia Division of the United Daughters of the Confederacy. The book is written by Mrs. W. C. N. Merchant, of the Rawley Martin Chapter, with items compiled by Mrs. Cabell Smith. The book abounds in historical information concerning Virginia, and is of interest to every resident of the state. It affords a ready reference to all the important happenings in the Old Dominion since the days of Captain John Smith.

The Methodist Protestant Church held its membership meeting in the lecture room of that church last evening at which time the delegate elected to represent the church at the next annual conference was instructed to ask for the return of Rev. E. T. Kirkley for another year. Rev. Kirkley has been pastor of the church for the past two years. The following officers were elected: Stewards—R. J. Ayers, F. W. Deeton, W. Allen, H. B. Smith, Norman Roberts, C. E. Davis; Trustees—W. S. Risdon and H. B. Smith. Delegate to the annual conference: F. W. Deeton; alternate, Norman Roberts.

in any sense the organization of labor or any particular union, nor does it oppose the making of reciprocal agreements or contracts, but adds:

"It does, however, deprecate any agreement by which it is sought to take from the employer, directly or indirectly, the control of his business, the right to hire and discharge his employees for good cause or which curtails the right of the employer to dictate the policy of his business and the mode in which it shall be conducted."

"Be it further resolved, That this association will give its financial and moral support to all employers insisting upon these rights."

Fish Day Tomorrow!
Potomac shad, steak halibut, large white perch, boiling rock, fish, yellow perch, pike fish, medium rock, winter shad, steak tile, Potomac bass, oysters, 25 cent a quart.

Sanitary Fish Market,
Stall No. 2, City Market. Phone 735. Open until 5 p. m.

WHOLESALE—
Oysters, Clams and Crabs,
J. BRILL, No. 2 King St.

LOST—On Washington street between Prince and Oronoco, Auto crank. Finder please return to Mt. Vernon Auto Co.

MONEY TO LOAN—On first mortgage in Alexandria and Rosemont. Apply to Howard W. Smith, 107 north Fairfax street.

Miss Lottie Larmond, of Richmond is the guest of her cousins, Mr. and Mrs. Alexander Slaymaker, at their home in north Columbus street.

Mrs. J. Harry Byrne and son, John Joseph, of Washington, D. C., and her sister-in-law, Miss Laurie L. Byrne, of Lowell, Mass., are the guests of the formers' mother, Mrs. Martha L. Byrne, at her home in Wilkes street.

The Old Dominion Boat Club will hold a meeting tonight in the rooms of the chamber of Commerce for the purpose of taking up the proposed change of its by-laws and the re-furnishing of the reception room in the clubhouse.

Miss Frances A. Dawkins and Judge Walter I. Dawkins, of Baltimore, and Mr. James Steed Edelen, of Prince George's county, Maryland, who have been the guests of Dr. and Mrs. Charles T. Lindsay, in south Columbus street, during the past week have returned to their homes.

Washington Memorial Lodge of Perfection No. 7, Scottish Rite Masons, will confer the ninth and tenth degrees at a stated meeting to be held on Friday evening of this week in the Masonic Temple. The annual election of officers will be also held previous to the conferring of the degrees.

The fourth academics of St. Mary's Academy acquitted themselves most creditably in the program given by them in the presence of the faculty and student body in the Assembly Hall yesterday afternoon. Piano and violin solo and duets with a class song at the close completed the musical numbers of the program. The literary numbers, original papers in verse and prose, written as class exercises during the month covered a variety of subjects and spoke well for St. Mary's graduating of this year.

At the close of the program the reports for February were distributed. The following made the highest average during the past month: Fourth Academic, Miss A. Cook, 93. 2nd, Misses Ella Teague, M. Wibert, Regina Fannon, 92. 1st Academic, Misses Emma Hubbard, Ora Robitaille, Lucy Triplett, 92. 2nd Commercial, May Brock, 96. 1st year commercial V. Webster, 92. One year Commercial, Susie Murphy, 97. 8th grade, Odette Biggs, 97. 7th grade, Miss Catherine Grace, 96. 6th grade Margaret Schoeni, 99. 5th grade, Theresa Boyd, 96. 4th grade Emily Lannon, Dorothy Harrington, Virginia Nugent, Josephine Gilroy, 92. 3rd grade Helen Aldridge, Elsie Jacobs, 95. 2nd grade, Frances Shuman, 95. Primary grade, Cornelia Nugent. Ribbons in Expression for the February Test: Junior Course: 3rd. Yellow, N. Wattles, G. Graves, C. Wattles, Senior Course: 12th. Orange: E. Hubbard, P. Evans, Post Graduate-Dramatic Art: 2nd. Old Rose, J. Duncait.

WILL PUSH HOLLAND.

Entente to Retaliate if Dutch Keep Their Ships in Port.

London, March 8.—The report current here that Holland is determined to lay up her ships rather than expose them to the dangers of the German submarine war zone is causing so much irritation that it would not be surprising if the governments of the entente should adopt retaliatory measures, unless negotiations between London and The Hague reach a successful conclusion. A well-informed diplomat expressed the prevailing feeling and policy of the entente to the Associated Press last night as follows:

"Should Holland, after stigmatizing the German war zone declaration as wholly illegal, acquiesce in the measure, the entente would be bound to regard such action as unneutral and would feel constrained to take retaliatory measures, even to the possible extent of using their right, which would enable the entente governments to requisition Dutch shipping now within their harbors. Such action on the part of the Dutch would tend to make the German policy effective, as the holding up of neutral shipping is more serious than an attack on entente tonnage, which proceeds despite the risk."

"No complaint in this direction has been made against the United States,

Miss Mamie Marsden, of Edinburgh, Virginia, is the guest of Mr. and Mrs. George E. Pickett, at their home in Prince street.

Mr. Howard Rowen, of Hagerstown, Maryland, is the guest of his parents, Mr. and Mrs. Thomas J. Rowen, at their home in Prince street.

Mrs. William Lannan Unduch, of Baltimore, was the guest of her parents, Mr. and Mrs. Lycurgus E. Uhler, in south Washington street, during the week.

Lenten services will be held in St. Paul's Church this afternoon at 5 o'clock, in Christ Church tomorrow afternoon at 5 o'clock and in Grace Church at 7:30 tomorrow evening.

Mr. Charles B. Sullivan has returned to the University of Virginia, Charlottesville, after spending a few days with his parents, Mr. and Mrs. Charles Sullivan, at their home in north Columbus street.

Wm. C. Wolf, son of the late Wm. C. Wolf, who has been stationed at Camp Wilson, San Antonio, Texas, with the machine gun company of the Third Infantry, for the past 5 months is the guest of his mother, Mrs. Lena Wolf, on King street.

The Friday afternoon tea, from 3 to 6 o'clock, in the Girl's Club room, 921 King street, will be in charge of Miss Marion Negley. These weekly teas at the club are most enjoyable and well attended and a pleasant hour can be spent there chatting with friends.

Rev. Dr. James T. Marshall, pastor of the West Presbyterian Church of Washington, conducted the funeral service of Mrs. Margaret E. Mitchell, at 3 o'clock this afternoon at her late residence in Mount Ida. The remains will be shipped to Milwaukee for interment.

Mrs. R. W. Goldsworthy entertained informally yesterday afternoon, at her home in Cedar street, Rosemont, in honor of Mrs. Carcher, of Cincinnati, who is visiting in Washington. Other guests were Mrs. J. W. Spencer, Mrs. Grant Forbes, Mrs. Jacob Corli, Mrs. Amos, Mrs. N. Purcell and Mrs. John Curtin.

Miss Martha Fones died at her home on south Fairfax street yesterday afternoon. The deceased was in the 76th year of her age. She was a native of Westmoreland county, Va., but had resided in Alexandria for many years. Miss Fones was a sister of Rev. Henry Fones, of Westmoreland county.

The regular Friday afternoon prayer meeting in the Anne Lee Memorial Home for the Aged will be conducted at 3 o'clock tomorrow afternoon by Miss Nettie Henshaw, of the First Baptist Church. A cordial invitation is extended to all and also the request is made to take the blue books for the song service preceding the prayer service.

which has already taken action that might lead to war. Therefore the American government, is justified in laying up shipping until measures are taken to safeguard it.

"The entente policy is not purely negative, for, should Dutch ships come out, every effort will be made to protect them."

SEEKS TO RECOVER VESSEL.

Owner of Schooner Captured as Whisky Runner Begins Proceedings.

The two-masted schooner Elizabeth Clarke, which figured in the recent fight in the Rappahannock river when the sheriffs of Northumberland and Westmoreland counties, in Virginia, went to arrest her master, Capt. Ike Bozman, on a charge of violating the Virginia dry laws, is still lying at Irvington, Va. She is in the custody of the sheriff of Lancaster county, and Milton C. Clarke, of Washington, the owner of the schooner, has taken steps to protect the vessel from seizure.

The Clarke, as soon as she is turned over to her owner, will complete loading a cargo of railroad ties, which she will take to Washington.

See Linton, at Blondheim's old stand, City Market, for meats, Auth's Provisions, etc.

INDORSES ALEXANDRIA MAY ABANDON PRUSSIA

Washington Chamber of Commerce Will Endeavor to Induce Government to Locate Armor Plant Here.

As has several times been stated in the Gazette, Alexandria will remain in the field as a competitor for the government armor plant until it shall have been definitely settled as to the location of the same. The people of our city never have seen any good reason why the plant could not be located here, and the Chamber of Commerce as well as city officials have set forth the advantages of Alexandria over and over again. There is no need of reproducing the arguments at this time. The fact that our city is two hundred miles from the Atlantic Ocean renders it practically immune from attack by a hostile fleet. Besides, if Alexandria is looked upon as unsafe for such a plant, the capital city of the nation is equally unsafe.

But such objections were answered from the First. Washington has been a competitor for the armor plant, but the representative people of that city at the outset stated that should it become apparent that the government would not locate it in the District of Columbia, they would vie with Alexandria in attempts to induce the federal authorities to select our city.

Washington is now out of the race, according to the board of directors of the Chamber of Commerce of that city.

The board held its regular monthly meeting yesterday afternoon, when the special committee who have had in charge the securing of the armor plant for the District of Columbia, reported that Washington, will, in all probability, be overlooked in the selection of a site for the plant by the government. The committee strongly recommended that in the event the District be unable to secure the plant, Alexandria be supported in its efforts. A resolution to this effect will in all probability be sent to the Secretary of the Navy.

CHINA AND GERMANY.

Immediate Breaking off of Relations by Flowering Kingdom Expected.

Peking, March 8.—The immediate breaking off of relations with Germany is expected here, and it is generally predicted that China will join the entente.

This belief is due to the fact that dispatches from Tientsin say that Tuan Chi Jui, who resigned March 4 and left for Tientsin, has decided to return to the capital immediately and resume the premiership. It is said that President Li Yuan Hung has agreed to give the cabinet full power to frame the foreign policy.

The cabinet is known to favor the severing of relations with Germany, and parliament is showing a disposition to follow the leadership of Tuan Chi Jui rather than that of the president.

New York, March 8.—Japan sent an ultimatum to China on February 19, declaring that unless China declared war on Germany she would seize iron works and mines in China, occupy all Teutonic settlements in China and confiscate all Austro-German property in China, the Tribune declares. Its information, the Tribune said, was received by persons in New York directly interested in Chinese affairs.

Washington, March 8.—Ambassador Sato, of Japan, last night branded as unequivocally false the statement appearing in newspapers to the effect that Japan had sent an ultimatum to the Republic of China demanding that that country abandon its neutrality and join forces with the entente allies against the Teutonic empires, Turkey and Bulgaria.

Death Notice.

On Wednesday, March 7, 1917, at his home 706 Duke street. IVAN MARSHALL, son of the late Ivan Marshall and Kate Makely Green. Funeral from the residence Friday, morning, March 9th, at 10 a. m. Interment private at Concord, Stafford county.

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41-45.

Proposed Revival of South German Union Reported to Have Vatican's Backing.

London, March 8. — Austria is planning to desert Prussia and confederate with Bavaria and the other South German States in case of the Central Powers' defeat, thus reviving the South German Union which was broken up by Bismarck, in 1867, according to Arthur S. Draper, writing from London.

According to a Rome dispatch to the London Daily Telegraph, the isolation of Prussia and the disintegration of the present German Empire have been the objects of several conferences between the King of Bavaria and the new Austrian Emperor and Vienna and Munich politicians.

The Berne correspondent of the Milan Idea Nazionale states that Austria's action, backed by the Vatican, has been prompted by alarming reports that Germany intended to leave Austria to her fate in the event of the Allies' victory.

"Certain utterances in Berlin," writes the correspondent, "that Austria would eventually have to look out for herself, almost created a panic. A remark attributed to the German Kaiser has had a wide circulation in Vienna. The Kaiser, it is said, one day in the presence of some Austrian officers said, as if half in jest and half in earnest, that it would not be just that Germany, having made by far the greatest sacrifices in the war, should also bear the greater part of the expenses."

"Immediately afterward it was noticed that Austrian diplomacy was making closer efforts at a closer approachment with some of the South German States. The young imperial couple first visited Munich, and negotiations, it is said, were proposed for the union of Bavaria and Austria against Prussia."

"Austria hoped to find a strong and safe ally in Bavaria, the largest of the German Catholic States, and it is hinted that even the good office of the Vatican were solicited."

"But nothing could be done in this direction without its being noticed at once by Berlin, which instantly took steps to defeat any such separatist tendencies. Pressure of such a nature, in fact, was brought to bear on the King of Bavaria as to compel him to visit the German headquarters, and, as has been seen, the Kaiser, undertook personally to go and settle things in Vienna."

"Vatican circles, it is hinted, were tempted with the suggestion of creating a Catholic South German State by means of a union between Austria and Bavaria and agents have been working in Paris and London to obtain eventual approval of such a scheme. These agents, it is said, are secretly approved by Austria. They are very discreet, but all the more insidious."

IRON CROSS FOR VARDAMAN.

Constituents of Senator Adopt Unique Way to Show Disfavor.

Senator James K. Vardaman, of Mississippi, is to be decorated with an iron cross for his 18-minute speech in the Senate in opposition to President Wilson's armed neutrality bill. Constituents of the senator have adopted this unique way of letting him know just how they feel with respect to the part he played as one of the "willful twelve" of the Senate who blocked this important legislation by a filibuster.

In Germany the iron cross is conferred for unusual deeds of valor. But Senator Vardaman's iron cross, if the dispatches do not exaggerate, will make the ordinary decorations of the Kaiser insignificant in comparison.

The emblem to be bestowed on the Mississippi senator weighs 40 pounds. It was forged in a blacksmith shop in Biloxi, Miss.

It bears an inscription, which reads: "Lest the Kaiser forget."

Thomas Collins made the iron cross, and he and his neighbors, the last night's dispatches from Biloxi intimated, consider it very appropriate. It was shipped to Washington yesterday.

We will have halibut, salt water trout, croakers, Spanish mackerel, fresh herring and fresh shad for sale for the balance of the week. Geo. E. Price & Co., 58-11